

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ORM-02 SCA-01 MMO-01 ABF-01 AID-05

PER-01 SSO-00 /021 W

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O 090644Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6994

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, CVIS, TH, VS, LA, CB

SUBJ: POST EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM REFUGEE PROBLEMS

REF: (A) BANGKOK 29214, (B) STATE 288426, (C) GLADSON-ALDER TELCON

1. IN OUR MESSAGE TO THE DEPARTMENT TRANSMITTED IN REF A, WE INDICATED OUR INTENTION TO TRANSFER TO THE EMBASSY'S CONSULAR SECTION, THE REMAINING WORK OF THE REFUGEE OFFICE. WE ALSO INDICATED THE NEED FOR ONE U.S. POSITION AND THREE LOCAL POSITIONS TO CARRY ON THE REMNANTS OF THE 1975/76 REFUGEE PROGRAM.

2. IN REF B, THE DEPARTMENT INDICATED THAT A POSITION WAS BEING CREATED AND THAT FSRL JOHN TUCKER, WHOSE 18-MONTH TDY WITH THE PROGRAM ENDED IN NOVEMBER, WAS BEING OFFERED A TWO-YEAR RE-IMBURSABLE DETAIL WITH THE EMBASSY AS A REFUGEE OFFICER. WE ARE MOST ANXIOUS TO HAVE TUCKER, GIVEN HIS INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE PROGRAM, LAO LANGUAGE CAPABILITY AND THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR CONTINUITY IN THE FACE OF CONTINUING VIETNAMESE BOAT CASES AND SEEPAGE INTO THAILAND OF REFUGEES FROM LAOS AND CAMBODIA. THE WORK OF THE REFUGEE OFFICE PARTICULARLY CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE, AND CONTACT WORK WITH THE UNHCR FOR EXAMPLE, HAS NOT DIMINISHED WITH THE END OF THE EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM (EPP) AND THE MOVEMENT OF THE FINAL INCREMENTS OF THE OVER 23,000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES FROM THAILAND TO THE U.S.

3. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM D/HA IN THE DEPARTMENT THAT AID PERSONNEL DOES NOT CONCUR IN HIS ASSIGNMENT AND WISHES TUCKER TO TAKE ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT. AID APPARENTLY DOES NOT APPROVE OF HIS

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REMAINING IN BANGKOK DESPITE HIS OWN PREFERENCES TO REMAIN WITH

THE PROGRAM. AS D/HA AND OTHER ELEMENTS WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT AND AID WILL RECALL WE HAVE HAD TO OVERCOME ALMOST CONTINUAL PERSONNEL TURBULENCE IN OUR REFUGEE OPERATION. MYERS, HUXTABLE, ROSENBLATT AND NOW TUCKER HAVE HAD A CRACK AT MANAGING THE PROGRAM. WE CANNOT CONTINUE TO HANDLE THIS IMPORTANT ACTIVITY WITH PART-TIME HELP.

4. WE DO NOT WISH TO PREJUDICE TUCKER'S CAREER OPPORTUNITIES. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE, GIVEN HIS EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE AT THIS POST, THAT HIS TALENTS ARE NEEDED HERE TO HELP BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE EPP AND NORMAL IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES FOR THE CONTINUED REFUGEE WORK AHEAD.

5. WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING THAT ASSISTAND ADMINISTRATOR MANN AND OTHER RECIPIENTS OF THIS MESSAGE CANDO TO ASSIST US.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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